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U.S. Dept. of Agriculture

# LIPPIA

The Drought-Resisting Lawn Plant

A New and Remarkable Substitute for Lawn Grass

Solves the Problem of Maintaining a Lawn  
Through the Dry California Summer

H. W. Gint's Yard

# LIPPIA

## A LAWN PLANT FOR DRY CLIMATES

Lippia Repens is a creeping lawn plant, slightly resembling clover in appearance, remarkable for its power of flourishing, with little water, through the long dry California summer. It covers the ground with a thick smooth mat of green quite as handsome as ordinary lawn grass, while unlike grass, it requires very little water, weeding, or mowing.

Lippia comes from the dry regions of Northern Africa, and is extensively used in Southern Europe for lawns, garden walks and tennis courts. Recently introduced into Southern California, its use has become general there as a substitute for lawn grass. Summer resorts throughout that section have made extensive use of Lippia in their grounds.

Clinging closely to the ground, Lippia roots at every joint and spreads out rapidly from the central plant. The roots penetrate deep into the ground, drawing up moisture from a great depth. Lippia requires water only during the driest summer months, and then only at intervals of two weeks or more. It will even go through a summer with no water, without material damage, though without any water, it suffers somewhat in appearance.

Never rising from the ground more than three inches, Lippia requires

## Lippia Lawns In California

The following is a list of institutions, companies and individuals who have made extensive use of Lippia in their grounds. The turf for these lawns was supplied by the Hill Girt Nursery, Martinez, Cal.

**Miller & Lux Ranches, San Joaquin Valley.**

**Mountain Copper Co., Martinez**

**Associated Oil Co., Pipe Line Pumping Stations.**

**California-Hawaiian Sugar Refinery, Crockett.**

**California Packing Corp'n, Oakley.**

**W. R. Hearst Hacienda, Pleasanton.**

**St. Patrick's Seminary, Menlo Park.**

**Jewish Consumptive Relief Assoc. of Cal., Duarte.**

**Byron Hot Springs Hotel, Byron.**

**Pittsburg Grammar School, Pittsburg.**

**Geo. C. Jensen, Supt. Mt. Diablo Country Club.**

**Mrs. C. W. Sloss, Ross Valley.**

**J. A. Talbot, Redwood City.**

**J. S. Simpson, Sonora.**

**H. O. Davis, San Fernando.**

**MacRorie-McLaren Co., Landscape Architects, San Francisco.**

**Cotton & Co., Landscape Architects, San Francisco.**

**Neal T. Childs Co., Landscape Architects, San Francisco.**

**Emerson Knight, Landscape Architects, San Francisco.**

We have shipped Lippia Roots to several thousand purchasers in all parts of California and the West. As we have never received a complaint from anyone who has followed our planting instructions, it is evident that this lawn plant has given complete satisfaction.

**HILL GIRT NURSERY**

**MARTINEZ, CAL.**

**(over)**

As an indication of the satisfaction which planters of Lippia feel in their lawns, we give below a copy of a letter from Miller & Lux, who are considered the largest Land Owners in California, having holdings of several million acres.

San Francisco, April 6, 1919.

Hill Girt Nursery,

Martinez, Cal.

Gentlemen:

Replying to your inquiry as to the success of the Lippia Repens which we purchased from you and planted at several of our farm houses in the San Joaquin Valley last spring, we have pleasure in stating that we are well pleased with the result, and intend to take up all of the blue grass we have growing on all of our other lawns, with a view of planting Lippia Repens for a permanent lawn instead of blue grass.

Yours truly,

MILLER & LUX, Inc.

(Signed)

J. Leroy Nickle,

Vice President.

The Hill Girt Nursery, Martinez, is the only one in the State which specializes in Lippia propagation; and we invite comparison of our prices and quality of turf with those of other Nurseries.

## LIPPIA PRICE LIST

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A Lippia Root is a small bit of the turf, 1½ by 1½ inches square with some soil adhering. For convenience of transportation, Lippia turf is shipped in squares, 15x15 inches. When ready to plant, each square should be divided into 100 roots by slicing it 9 times across each way with a sharp knife. Allow one Lippia root for each square foot of ground to be planted.

|                   |                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 100 to 1000.....  | \$1.00 per Hundred Roots |
| 1000 to 5000..... | .85 per Hundred Roots    |
| 5000 up .....     | .75 per Hundred Roots    |

All orders should be accompanied by check, or postoffice money order. Shipments usually made by freight, except where distance is short or quantity small.

For Sale By

**HILL GIRT NURSERY**

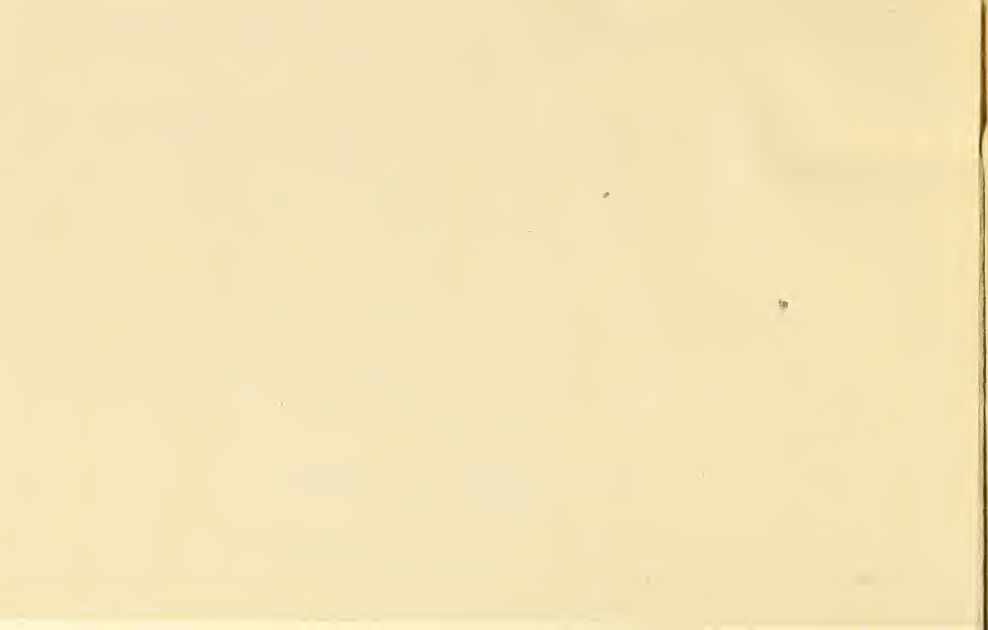
**JOHN F. SWETT**

**MARTINEZ**

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**CALIFORNIA**





little mowing, and may be left entirely without it, though an occasional application of the lawn mower improves its appearance and stimulates its growth. The little pink flowers which rise from it in great profusion in midsummer should be mowed off as soon as they begin to fade.

In winter weeds occasionally come up through the Lippia turf, as it is then partially dormant, but as soon as hot weather comes on, the weeds, being less hardy, are choked out and disappear. Even Morning Glory will be choked out by Lippia in this manner. Notwithstanding its great hardiness, Lippia cannot become a pest, as it does not seed, and when cut off below ground cannot sprout up from the roots.

As Lippia does not grow from seed, it is propagated by planting little squares of the turf, with roots and soil adhering. These little squares, an inch or so across, are planted a foot apart each way and in a few months time spread over the entire surface of the ground. The lawn thus established is permanent in character and does not have to be replanted.

To start a Lippia lawn, cultivate the ground thoroughly, leaving a surface flat, smooth and free from clods. Cut the turf for planting into squares an inch and a half across. Plant these a foot apart each way, their upper surface level with the ground. When all are planted water freely to settle the loose earth around the roots. Then keep the ground fairly moist until the Lippia has covered the entire surface of the ground, after which it will require water at only long intervals.

While the Lippia plants are spreading, weeds are apt to come up between them. These should be pulled up or a lawn mower run over at short intervals, thus checking their growth until the Lippia is strong enough to choke them out.

Lippia will flourish on poor soils and on moderately sloping ground, provided only that it gets enough water in midsummer to prevent the ground from entirely drying out. It stands the wear of feet better than grass, does not stain the clothes, and is excellent for broad garden walks, under hammocks, or for tennis or croquet grounds. When watering use an ordinary lawn spray, applying always enough water to sink deep into the ground where the Lippia roots are.

The standard form for planting is a square of the turf, fifteen inches across. When ready to plant, cut this piece with a sharp knife nine times across each way, subdividing it into 100 small squares.

Each fifteen inch square of turf furnishes sufficient material for planting 100 square feet of lawn. When ordering turf, estimate the square feet of lawn desired, and get one 15 inch square for every hundred square feet of ground.

Lippia packed for shipment will keep fresh for several weeks. Special rates will be given to owners of summer resorts, recreation parks or extensive grounds, where large quantities can be used. Lippia can be planted at any time of the year, but spring and fall are preferable.